

sional teachers were Henry F. Young, Richard Greer, George Clark and his wife, and Enoch Jorgensen.

Books were scarce in the early days, and so one book was often shared by several pupils. Progress in the schools was measured by the readers used—first, second, third and up to the sixth reader, which was the highest used. Completion of this marked the end of school instruction.

The Holy Bible was one of the most common books used. Others included "McGuffey's Reader and Writer," "Wilson Readers," "National Readers," "The Pacific Coast Readers and Spellers," "Ray's Third Arithmetic," and "Watson's Complete Speller."

Around the year 1887 the one-room schools and the numerous independent districts were deemed ineffective and laws were passed making it possible to consolidate school areas. This permitted larger schools and a more complete curriculum.

With consolidation came the organization of public schools on a county basis and the election of Attewall Wootton Sr., as first county superintendent. He had been a successful teacher in Midway schools and was very popular throughout the valley.

By 1890 he had district schools functioning in all the communities, though teachers were still hard to find. Salaries were poor and those who taught had to supplement their incomes with outside work. The only certification required of the teachers was approval by Supt. Wootton.

Education was the total life of Attewell Wootton Sr. and those who came under his powerful influence were changed for the better. His own sons and many of those whom he taught later became teachers and leaders in Wasatch County as well as in many other areas.

Mr. Wootton's educational policies are still respected today and his career of 40 years of devoted educational service will stand as a tribute to him always.



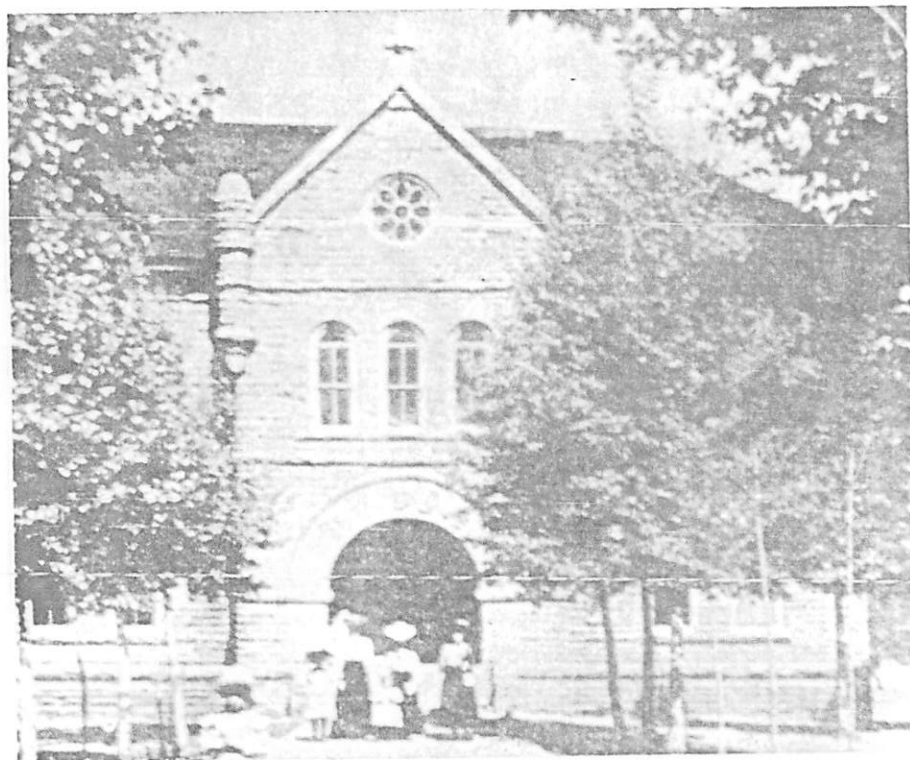
HENRY M. AIRD

First principal of graded schools in Wasatch County—1892

By 1892 the theory of graded schools was being implemented in the valley and Henry Aird became the first principal of a graded school in the county. The Heber Central School, as it was known, came about through

the influences of Mr. Aird and William Buys, an early teacher and the founder, owner and editor of the Wasatch Wave newspaper. Mr. Aird had taught in the one-room East Ward School, and then attended the University of Utah, completing a normal course.

When he returned to Wasatch County he felt that the time was ripe to do away with one-room schools, and through his influence the graded school movement began in Wasatch County in a rock structure with eight classrooms in two stories.



The old building of the Heber Central School where Henry Aird developed the graded school system in Wasatch County during the 1890's.

Just prior to this forward-moving step in education, however, another development had occurred in the schools of the valley. This was the period of Church schools.

As early as 1860 there were Protestant groups that established schools in "Mormon Utah." Some were designed to "convert" the Mormons away from their faith, while others were established for non-members of the Church who had settled in the area and who did not like their children to attend schools that were largely conducted in Mormon church buildings.